

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**MARCH**

**20<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup>**

P-6 STOMP Music Program

**23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

Sec LMR Swimming

**24<sup>th</sup> Friday**

**-Pri STOMP Evening Performance**

-Pri Parent/Teacher Talks 3.15-4pm and 5-5.30pm

**27<sup>th</sup> Monday**

Sec I/S Volleyball / Tennis

**29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

-Sec I/S Softball / Baseball

-Sec Parent/Teacher Interviews

**31<sup>st</sup> Friday**

Last Day of Term One

**-Class Easter Basket Competition & Raffle Draw**

-Earlier finishing time of 2.30pm

**-OHSC will finish at the earlier time of 5pm**

**MAY**

**5<sup>th</sup> Friday**

Cross Country

**23<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday**

Pri incursion Excuse Me I was here First

**JUNE**

**1<sup>st</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>**

Eisteddfod

**29<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

Pri Planet Rhythm

**AUGUST**

**7<sup>th</sup> Monday**

Gr 3-6 Australian Folklore

**SEPTEMBER**

**27<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

Athletics Carnival

**NOVEMBER**

**13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**

Gr 5-6 Lake Cullulleraine camp

**2017 TERM DATES**

Term 2: 18<sup>th</sup> Apr – 30<sup>th</sup> Jun

Term 3: 17<sup>th</sup> Jul – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept

Term 4: 9<sup>th</sup> Oct – 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**Mr Graeme Cupper**

**LATROBE UNIVERSITY VISIT**

We enjoyed the opportunity to host a visit from 29 Latrobe University 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Education students this morning. They were accompanied by their lecturer, Jenney Ryan.

The main purpose of the visit was to study the types of classroom learning environments that are offered here at Merbein P-10 College. The students participated in a 'Learning Walk' led by five of our teachers. This was followed by a reflection and a chance to ask questions about how teaching and learning occurs at our school.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL 2017

Office bearers for 2017 were appointed at our School Council Meeting last night. Steve Liddicoat was elected to the position of President and Graeme Worthington will take on the Vice President role.

Membership of the 2017 Council is as follows:

Parent Category			
Andrew Nemtsas	Scott Gardiner	Michelle Nokes	
Sandy l'Anson	Steve Liddicoat	Cameron Linklater	
DET Category			
Greg Rhodes	Sandra Luitjes	Chris Blackie	Yvonne Matotek

<b>Community Category (Co-opted)</b>	Graeme Worthington
<b>Executive Officer</b>	Graeme Cupper (Principal)
<b>Secretary</b>	Judy Hunyadi

I would like to thank our councillors for volunteering their time, commitment and expertise to help our school to provide the best possible learning environment for our students.

After seven years as Council President, Andrew Nemtsas has decided to take a step back, fortunately for the school he will continue as a member of council. Andrew's leadership has been instrumental in enabling the school to work through an era of unprecedented change from the first days of the merger through to the establishment of the successful community school we see today. I have personally greatly appreciated Andrew's support and on behalf of the school, I sincerely thank him for the passionate advocacy he has provided.

## INTERSCHOOL CHESS RESULTS - Mrs Fetherston

Wow! What a wonderful, awesome and inspiring day. We took 11 lovely students on Tuesday 14th March to compete at the Interschool Chess Tournament at Trinity Lutheran College. Only 3 had ever competed at an interschool tournament before. While we didn't win any medals, ALL of our students won some of their games and proved that they have some hidden talents. Each student plays 7 games of chess, and can achieve a top score of 7. Results below.

### Primary Section

Hayden Gardiner 4	Riley Nokes 4
Keigan Pope 3	Curtis Crabtree 3
Douglas Allan 3	Miles Fetherston 3

### Middle Years Section

James Pullen 4	Ethan Lane 3 ½
Vincent Martin 3 ½	Byron Lang 2 ½

### Open Secondary Section

Ethica Evans 2
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We will be starting practices again during lunchtime on Mondays in the Yellow building. New players are always welcome. We will also begin some Beginners Lessons.

## SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

BSB - 063 714

Bank Acc Number – 10060535

Account Name - Merbein P-10 College Official Account.

## UNIFORM SHOP

Open Tuesday 8.30 – 9.30am

Open Thursday 2.00 – 4.00pm

If these times do not suit, please ring the school to make other arrangements.

## **NEWSLETTER EMAILED**

**Families who have not received the newsletter via email are asked to email the newsletter co-ordinator at the following email address:**

**Giddings.beth.l@edumail.vic.gov.au. Please add your name and your child's name. We will then update our data base so you can receive the newsletter in good time each week.**

## STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is away from school, please send a note or email the following address:

Collihole.heather.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

## BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Breakfast Program is being financially supported by the Merbein & District Community Bank & Merbein Development Association. Foodbank Victoria also supports the breakfast program with donations of food. The following organisations also provide volunteers to assist with the program; Merbein P10 College Parents' Club, the Board & Staff of the Merbein & District Community Bank, Merbein Development Association, Merbein Lions Club and Merbein Rotary. If you are able to volunteer to help in the Breakfast Program, please contact Haley at the Merbein & District Community Bank. The Breakfast Program is held in the school cafeteria. All students are welcome to come along between 8.00am and 8.45am each morning if they would like a FREE tasty breakfast to kick-start their day's learning.

## MERBEIN P-10 FACEBOOK PAGE

Check the Facebook Page for updates about the school and upcoming events.

[www.facebook.com/merbeinp10college](http://www.facebook.com/merbeinp10college)

## PLAY GROUP - TOTAL LEARNING CENTRE (TLC)

This playgroup is free of cost and is for children aged 0-5. **It is held at Merbein P-10 College from 9.30-11am every Thursday during the school term.**

Children and their carers share books, make fun stuff, play, dance and sing. Parents can receive information and support and share a cuppa and get to know other families. For more information about the Total Learning Centre (TLC) call or text Dani on 0437077689 or 50217476.

## '1000 BOOKS BEFORE SCHOOL' - JUDY HORACEK

Reading together is the best way to encourage a love of books in your child. This program has been designed by the State Library of Victoria to encourage children and parents to read together and enjoy books as a way to prepare them for their schooling life. Author and illustrator Judy Horacek will be officially launching '1000 Books Before School'. Judy is an author and illustrator who has worked with early literacy advocate Mem Fox on several books. Judy illustrated the award winning 'Where is the Green Sheep?' '1000 Books Before School' program will be held at the Mildura Library on Tuesday, 28th March from 10:30-11:30am, followed by morning tea. For more information, phone 5018 8350.

Website: [www.mildura.vic.gov.au/library](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au/library)

Facebook: @mrcclibrary

Twitter: @mrcclibrary

## PARENTS CLUB HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER

Parents Club are running a Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser. Order forms were sent home with last week's newsletter.

Please complete the form and return it to the school with payment no later than Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Hot Cross Bun orders will be sent to the school on the Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, ready for collection. **Extra order forms**

**can be collected from the either the Green Building office or the main office.**



# PRIMARY NEWS

## GRADE 2-4 NEWS – J. Costello

Last Friday students in Grade 2-4 explored friction as part of their Science Unit! They had a great time playing tug of war and looking at changes when using gloves and detergent.



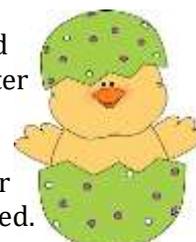
## HOME READING BOOKS - MISSING

Many of these books are not being returned regularly. They are very important and valuable learning resources for students, so please check at home and return all school books to school for renewed borrowing every day.



## CLASS EASTER BASKET COMPETITION

This year there will be a competition between each class from Grade P-6 and Year 7-10 to make their own class Easter Basket. The best class basket from the primary and secondary section will be kept by that class to eat. The remainder of the Class Easter Baskets will be raffled.



**Students are asked to send in donations of Easter chocolates to make their Class Easter Basket.**

Raffle tickets will be sent home soon.

**GRADE P-2 PHOTOS – B. Hall**

Some photos of our Grade P-2 students engaging in a variety of learning activities this term!



**WALK WENTWORTH SING – GRADE 2-6**

Walk Wentworth Sing will be held at the Wentworth Town Hall on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Our Grade 2-6 students will be participating in this event.

**All performers have been asked to wear their most colourful outfits on Sunday – definitely no uniform.** Thank you to the parents who have made the commitment to this program. All students are encouraged to come along to the event on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March. A timetable has been printed in the Community News at the end of this newsletter.

**NO HAT – NO PLAY**

Students must bring a wide brimmed hat to school every day, clearly labelled with their name. The hat does not need to be the uniform hat. **Caps are not acceptable.**

**AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM (OSHC)**

The OSHC staff and children celebrated St Patrick's Day three days early this week on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March. The children enjoyed healthy snacks of green fruit and lots of fun activities that were organised and run by secondary student 'Duke of Edinburgh' volunteers who organised and ran the activities. A great time was had by all.



**OSCH will finish at the earlier time of 5pm on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March.** Cheryl Hodge is our school's OSHC coordinator and can be contacted on 0428 258035 if you have any queries.

### STOMP DANCE – GRADES P-6 – W. Finn

Stomp Dance is coming to Merbein P-10 for a Four Day Program from 20<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> March. The Stomp Dance Group will be teaching dances to all our Grade P-6 students during their PE classes throughout the week. This program will cover a huge section of the Primary ARTS Curriculum - Music, Dance, Performance and Drama. The cost for this special program is covered by the 2017 Excursion Levy. If you have not paid the levy the cost is \$10 per child. The college has subsidised the cost of this program with funds from past Parent Club fund-raising. **Please check that your child's permission note is returned as soon as possible and that the money/levy has been paid.**



### PARENT TEACHER TALKS – STOMP EVENING – W. Finn

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March the Primary Section will open the classrooms and parents will be welcome to come in and chat with teachers about their child's progress from 3.15-4pm and 5–5.30pm before the STOMP performance. No appointment times.



### PRIMARY STOMP DANCE PERFORMANCE – W. Finn

A Primary Stomp Dance Presentation, performed by our students will be held in the college gym on Friday evening, 24th March starting at 5pm with a BYO picnic tea. **The performance will begin at 5.45pm, finishing at 6.30pm followed by a half hour disco.** The night will conclude at 7pm. All our primary families are invited to attend.



### GUITAR PROGRAM 2017 (OPTIONAL PROGRAM)

– J. Hudson

There are still a few spots available for both Group and Individual Guitar lessons for Grade P-6 students. If you wish to enrol for guitar lessons to find out the cost or if you need more information, please email [iwansoebardi@gmail.com](mailto:iwansoebardi@gmail.com) or call Iwan Soebardi on 0418919220.

### MERBEIN PRIMARY KEYBOARD/PIANO LESSONS

– J. Hudson

Expressions of Interest are invited for students interested in commencing piano or keyboard lessons with Louise Judd.

The cost is \$27 per 30-minute lesson plus books as required. Fees to be paid in advance or as arranged.

Lessons are offered during school hours on a weekly basis and missed lessons are not charged if prior notice is given.

For further information please contact Louise by email at [louisejudd53@gmail.com](mailto:louisejudd53@gmail.com) or phone 0408596944.

### WATER BOTTLES

Every student needs to bring along a plastic sport bottle of water (not soft drink or cordial or fruit drink, just water) to school every day to sit on their desks during class. Studies have proven that the brain does not function well if dehydrated. So it is best practice to drink plenty of water throughout the day.

NB: We have the refrigerated water fountain at school where the children can refill their bottles during the day.

### GREEN BUILDING WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the students from the Green Building who received weekly awards at last week's assembly.



### MERBEIN COMMUNITY BANK SCHOOL STUDENT BANKING PROGRAM

If you wish your child to participate in this program, send your child's bank book along to the Green Building Office every Thursday morning. The Bank will collect and process your child's banking and then drop the bank book back to school before the end of the school day.

A fun way to test your skills and knowledge with other students from all over our area.

## SECONDARY NEWS

### SECONDARY PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS – Mr Rhodes

These will be conducted in the Blue Building on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March between 4-7pm. Parents of all Year 7-10 students are encouraged to attend and make contact with their child's teachers.

Parents wishing to see teachers should come to the entrance of the Blue Building to get information about the location of teachers. The interviews are designed to be short opportunities to talk about your child's progress. It is important to keep the conversations brief. No appointments are necessary, but wait times are kept to a minimum because of the short nature of the interviews.

If a longer time is required, the parent and teacher will make an alternate time to have further discussions either in person or via the phone.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### SUNRAYSIA WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Held on the **MERBEIN P-10 COLLEGE** oval.

Have you thought about playing Women's Football? Come along and give it a go! Training Tuesday and Thursdays from 6pm. For more information, contact the Kangaroos Meringur Football-Netball Club. The new coaches for 2017 are Pip Harmer phone 0427999100 and Ben Rankin phone 0459391520.

### MERBEIN 'A PICNIC IN THE PARK'

The Rotary Club of Merbein in conjunction with Mildura Brass Band, invites everyone to come and enjoy an afternoon of music with the Brass Band playing in the Band Rotunda at Kenny Park Merbein on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April from 12.30pm.

A BBQ Lunch will be available together with Coffee, Cold Drinks, Ice-Cream etc.

So bring the family and your picnic rug & chairs and come along for a relaxing time.

Colouring Competition for the children. Prizes for the competition will be kindly donated by Lower Murray Water.

Free entry – Strictly Alcohol Free Event.

### 39TH MILDURA EISTEDDFOD (MAY 31–JUNE 19)

Entries are now open. Entries close Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Information can be found at our website

<http://www.milduraeisteddfod.org/>

and on Facebook Mildura Eisteddfod Timeline.

Email: [milduraeisteddfod@gmail.com](mailto:milduraeisteddfod@gmail.com)

Mobile: 0429 481 898

Allan Hassell, email: [allanhassell@me.com](mailto:allanhassell@me.com)

### FREEZA PUSH START COMP

FReeZA Push Start Comp (formerly known as 'Battle of the Bands') showcases young musicians from around Victoria giving them the opportunity to perform, gain local exposure and win their way to a spot on the Grand Final line up.

To be held 24<sup>th</sup> March in the Mildura Senior College gymnasium from 7-11pm.

The competition is open to any style of music, including bands, soloists, duos, hip hop artists, electronic acts, acoustic acts, etc. For further information visit

<http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au/Services/Youth/FReeZA-A-Push-Start-Comp>, for phone Participation Officer Mildura Rural City Council on 0438 021 126, email [suzie.christensen@mildura.vic.gov.au](mailto:suzie.christensen@mildura.vic.gov.au).

### WALK WENTWORTH SING

Walk Wentworth Sing will be held at the Wentworth Town Hall on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Afternoon/evening of joyful song from a wide variety of community and school groups.

This event is a Pandora's box of musical styles. Groups choose and rehearse their own programs leading up to the event and this year there will be a combined voice and instrumental performance as well.

The amazing Jane Thompson and James Rigby will perform and lead the evening Big Sing Concert.

There is no cost for participation in the event.

Audience entry to the Town Hall will be by gold coin donation.

For more information, phone Anne Hederics on phone 5027 2298 or mobile: 0407 893 485.

Below is a timetable of events for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

10-11am Extra singing rehearsal for any interested singers for combined items.

12 noon Sunraysia Drum Circle

12.30pm Rio Vista Social Club

1pm Chinese Choir

1.30pm Stray Notes

2pm Sunny Street Singers

2.30pm Dominic Chorale

3pm Sunraysia Community Choir

3.30pm – Break

4–4.45pm Combined Big Sing rehearsal – all school and community performers from singing and instrumental workshops.

5–6pm Big Sing Performance

After concert – anyone interested in joining an all in singing session come and touch base with Jane and James at Artback.

### KITTEN TO GIVE AWAY

A nine-week old playful female tabby kitten to give-away to a good home. Phone Kaye 0437196703.

## **MERBEIN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB COACHING**

### **POSITIONS**

The Merbein Junior Football Club is seeking additional coaches for their Junior Football teams during the 2017 Season. Applicants must like working with kids. Training & assistance will be provided and they must also have a current Working with Children's Certificate. For more information, please contact:

Graeme Dunne – President 0407 235 751

Melissa McNally – Secretary 0427 502 303

### **ANNUAL PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIM MEET**

The Irymple Swimming Club will be holding their Annual Primary School Swim Meet on 17th March commencing at 5.30pm at the Irymple Swimming Pool.

Submit entries online via the following website [www.irympleswimmingclub.com.au](http://www.irympleswimmingclub.com.au)

### **ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM FOR AGES 14-17.**

This is an introductory leadership development program for young people fully sponsored by Rotary. If you are aged between 14-17, you have the opportunity to attend this weekend live-in seminar on 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> April at Lake Cullulleraine. The weekend will be jam packed with informational presentations from leadership professionals, group sessions and recreational activities. Visit [ryen9520.org.au](http://ryen9520.org.au) for more information and applications.

### **SOCIAL 7S**

Sunraysia Softball Association is launching a 4-week twilight competition on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The competition is mixed, all ages. It doesn't matter if you've never played before. It is a relaxed family friendly atmosphere with bbq dinner available. Registration is open. \$70 per team per week or \$10 each based on seven players. To register visit

<https://social7s.com.au/choose-registraion-type/?competition>. No uniform needed.

<https://social7s.com.au/about-social-7s>.

For more information email

[infosunraysiasoftball@gmail.com](mailto:infosunraysiasoftball@gmail.com)

### **THREE COLOURS**

Three Colours SC announces that 2017 registrations for U6 – U12 players are now open.

Boys and girls who have played the sport before or those who wish to play it for the very first time are welcome to contact: Lukas Pedder 0426 203 693 or Lucy Fotia 0439 302 090. Email [threecolourssc@live.com.au](mailto:threecolourssc@live.com.au) or visit [www.threecolours.com.au](http://www.threecolours.com.au)

## **MRCC 'SMALLTALK' PLAYGROUPS**

For parents and their children (up to four years of age).

Smalltalk is an evidence-based, ten-week program supporting parents to use strategies at home shown to help with children's language and developmental outcomes in supported playgroup sessions.

For more info: [www.smalltalk.net.au](http://www.smalltalk.net.au)

For more information on eligibility and how to be referred to the sessions please contact:

Alex Vagelatos - Supported Playgroup Facilitator

Mondays 9am-1.30pm & Tuesdays-Fridays 9am - 4pm.

Tel: 50188298 Mob: 0428 589 097

Laura Parente - Supported Playgroup Facilitator

Mondays-Thursdays 9am-4pm & Fridays 9am-1.30pm.

Tel: 5018 8199 Mob: 0400 134 879

### **MINIBALL REGISTRATION 2017**

Miniball is an introduction and skills based basketball program for primary school aged girls and boys from Grade P-4. Games are played at the Mildura Hot House on Saturday mornings.

Registration held 18<sup>th</sup> March from 9.30am at Mildura Hot House Stadium.

Cost \$50 and a \$5 per week door charge.

Contact Fiona on phone 0408 535 830 or email

[alcheringabb@gmail.com](mailto:alcheringabb@gmail.com).

### **WICKED – MUSICAL SOCIETY MILDURA**

Five performances on 25, 26, 27<sup>th</sup> August.

Looking for singers, dancers and actors as well as crew to help with makeup, costumes, props, set building, orchestra, lighting operators and backstage crew.

Information session to be held 10<sup>th</sup> April at the Power House, Hugh King Drive, Mildura at 7.30pm.

Contact [Musical.society.mildura@gmail.com](mailto:Musical.society.mildura@gmail.com). Check out FB Page Musical Society Mildura.

### **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG**

#### **PEOPLE AGED 12-16 YEARS**

School holidays are just around the corner and Youth Services Mildura have heaps of cool stuff planned for high school aged students.

Think fishing, MasterChef... challenge, geocaching treasure hunt, tobogganing, canoeing, inflatable world, movie and pizza, laser force and more. Make sure you book in now for these great low-cost activities. Find out all you need to know at [bit.ly/2h41WUW](http://bit.ly/2h41WUW)

